

REMARKS

In the Office action mailed July 15, 2005, the examiner rejects claims 1-18. This reply cancels claims 1 and 10-17 and amends claim 2, 3, 5, 8, and 18. Thus, claims 2-9 and 18 are pending and under consideration.

I. Response to § 103 rejections

The examiner rejects claims 2-9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,085,170 ("Tsukuda") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,195,651 ("Handel"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.

M.P.E.P. § 2143.03.

Claim 8 recites extracting information regarding consignment relay stations located in a vicinity of a designated address. The cited prior art, when viewed individually or in combination, does not teach or suggest at least this feature.

Tsukuda discloses a delivery management system. Specifically, Tsukuda discloses allowing a user to check the status of goods and to change a pre-specified delivery address. See col. 9, ll. 4-22 and col. 13, ll. 26-27. However, Tsukuda does not disclose any feature comparable to extracting information regarding consignment relay stations located in a vicinity of a designated address. The Office action appears to acknowledge this in section 6, lines 2-3.

Handel discloses a Web site that provides various services to its subscribers. More specifically, the reference discloses "software agents" which perform functions such as providing a user with news, maintaining a calendar, and allowing Web-based comparison shopping. Further, column 31 teaches a user creating several "personas." These include a persona for making purchases from the user's home and a persona for making purchases from a user's work. Although Handel teaches storing work and home addresses, nowhere does Handel teach anything regarding consignment relay stations because such teachings are immaterial to the system of Handel. Thus, Handel also does not teach anything comparable to extracting information related to consignment relay stations located in a vicinity of a designated address. As neither Tsukuda nor Handel contain any teachings relevant to this feature, the combined teachings of the references also do not teach or suggest this feature.

Claims 5 and 18 contain features similar to the feature of claim 8 discussed above.

Thus, claims 5 and 18 are allowable for at least reasons similar to the reasons claim 8 is allowable. Claims 2-4, 6, 7, and 9 are allowable at least because they depend upon an allowable base claim.

II. Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this reply, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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